Facelift of ITIs in the country

2133. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to invest Rs. 750/- crores for ITIs facelift in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the ITIs in Orissa that are proposed to be covered in this facelift?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) For upgradation of Government ITIs in the Country the Central Government has launched a new Scheme **"Upgradation of 1396 Govt. ITIs through Public Private Partnership"**: The first batch of 300 ITIs has been taken up for upgradation at a cost of Rs. 750.00 Cr. in 2007-08.

(b) Under this Scheme an Industry Partner is associated with each ITI to lead the process of upgradation. An Institute Management Committee (IMC) is set up in the ITI with the Industry Partner or its representative as the Chairperson and the Principal of the ITI as the member Secretary. The IMC is registered as a Society and an interest free loan of upto Rs. 2.5 Cr. is given directly to the IMC Society. The loan is repayable by the IMC Society over a period of 30 years.

For 2007-08, four Government ITIs in the State of Orissa viz. ITIs at Puri, Cuttak, Umerkote, and Chhatrapur (Women) have been covered under this Scheme and interest free loan of Rs. 10 Cr. has been released to them at a rate of Rs. 2.5 Cr. per ITI.

Violation of labour laws by pesticide making companies

†2134. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pesticide making companies are violating existing labour laws and security measures;

(b) if so, names of the companies, State-wise against which action has been taken during the last three years; and

(c) whether in order to ensure proper implementation of existing labour laws and security measures, procedures adopted by these companies have been received by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Productivity ratio of Indian Labour

2135. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how does our labour compare with Singapore, Japan, China, Korea in productivity ratio;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is a fact that our Indian labour lacks competitiveness in world market;

(c) what are the initiatives to upgrade the deficiencies; and

(d) whether, despite this deficiency, Indian labour is said to be still preferred; if so, what is the background for such preference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) On the basis of information published in World Competitiveness Year Book 2007 by Institute of Management and Development, Lausanne, Switzerland, the labour productivity measured in terms of Gross Domestic Product (Purchasing Power Parity) per Person Employed per Hour in India during 2006 has been worked out to be US$ 4.16, which is lower than Singapore (US$ 25.92), Japan (US$ 31.10), China-Mainland (US$ 6.02) and Republic of Korea (US$ 19.78).

(b) to (d) As per the information furnished by Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Indian workers are in great demand in some of the developed as well as developing countries. Every year about 6-7 lakh workers travel to various countries seeking job opportunities. Countries in the Middle East and South East Asia offer tremendous opportunities for the Indian skilled workers. The major trades in demand include electricians, plumbers, carpenters, drivers, welders, fitters, machine operators coming from China and other countries.

In order to address the issue, during 2006-07 the Central Government in consultation with State Governments launched a new scheme for skill upgradation and pre-departure orientation of the prospective emigrants. The training includes familiarization with the good working practices, safety norms and use of tools. The trainees are also given exposure on personality needs and how they should conduct themselves while they are working in the overseas establishments. This will help skilled workers in sharpening of their skills in tune with emerging market needs.

Eradicating child labour through social security to unorganized sector

2136. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is seriously considering about eradicating child labour and has initiated steps for social security for workers in the unorganized sector;

(b) whether Government is also committed its decision on eradicating child labour at the conference in Geneva held recently;

(c) whether Government is also considering to introduce a Bill for social security of workers in the unorganized sector;

(d) if so, by what time this legislation is likely to be introduced; and

(e) the steps taken to eradicate child labour in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is committed to elimination of child labour and Government's commitment is reiterated whenever the child labour issue is discussed in ILO conferences at Geneva and elsewhere.